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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No. : 10/820,135 Confirmation No.: 6664
Applicant : Nils KJELLBERG, et al.
Filed : April 8, 2004
TC/A.U. : 1711
Examiner : Irena ZEMEL
Docket No. : 038724.53972US
Customer No. : 23911
Title : **BRINE SEPARATION IN TALL SOAP OIL
PREPARATION**

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the restriction requirement of May 23, 2005, the Applicants respectfully elect with traverse Group 1, including claims 1-15, which the Examiner noted were drawn to a process for separating aqueous sodium bicarbonate brine from soap oil.

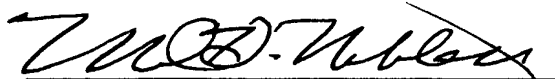
This election is made with traverse, it being submitted that the subject matter of the Group II, claims 16-19 is such that it should properly be examined and allowed in a single application along with the elected Group I Claims. Both groups relate to the same invention, utilizing high density water to improve the separation of an aqueous brine solution, applied in two different positions of a two-stage process of converting soap to tall oil (*i.e.*, acidulation of soap with carbonic acid to produce soap oil, and further acidulation of the soap oil with sulphuric acid to produce tall oil).

If there are any questions regarding this response or the application in general, a telephone call to the undersigned would be appreciated since this should expedite the prosecution of the application for all concerned.

If necessary to effect a timely response, this paper should be considered as a petition for an Extension of Time sufficient to effect a timely response, and please charge any deficiency in fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 05-1323 (Docket #038724.53972US).

Respectfully submitted,

June 23, 2005



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